

What is Claimed Is:

1. A method in a server configured for executing web-based voice application operations, the method comprising:

receiving a first hypertext markup language (HTML) request, via a hypertext transport (HTTP) connection, for execution of a first web-based voice application operation for a first user;

5 first storing in a data record a session identifier and a first application state that specifies an execution by a first application instance of the first web-based voice application operation for the first user;

executing a second web-based voice application operation by a second application instance for a second user based on the execution of the first web-based voice application operation for the first user; and

second storing in the data record a second application state that specifies the execution by the second application instance of the second web-based voice application operation for the second user.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first storing step and the second storing step each include storing user attribute information that specifies attributes about the corresponding user in the data record.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing a third web-based voice application operation in response to reception of a second HTML request from a first browser serving the first user and based on the first application state stored in the data record; and

overwriting the first application state stored in the data record with a third application state that specifies the execution of the third web-based voice application operation for the first user.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the step of executing the third web-based voice

application operation includes outputting for the first user an HTML page having extensible markup language (XML) tags that specify a group of menu options selectable by the first user and at least one media file to be played for the first user.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein the step of executing the third web-based voice application operation includes:

initiating a third application instance in response to reception of the second HTML request; accessing by the third application instance the data record based on detecting the session

5 identifier within the second HTML request; and

selecting for execution a stored XML document that specifies the third web-based voice application operation, based on identifying the HTML request by the first user and based on the first application state stored in the data record.

6. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

receiving via the HTTP connection a third HTML request from a second browser serving the second user;

5 executing a selected fourth web-based voice application operation in response to the third HTML request and based on the second application state stored in the data record; and

selectively storing in the data record fourth and fifth application states for the first and second users, respectively, based on execution of the selected fourth web-based voice application operation.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of executing the selected fourth web-based voice application operation includes sending XML tags specifying a bridge command to at least one of the first and second browsers for bridging the first and second users based on detection of a prescribed command within the third HTML request, the selectively storing step including specifying within the data record the fourth and fifth application states based on sending the bridge command.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of executing the selected fourth web-based voice

application operation includes outputting to the first user a second HTML page having XML tags that specify a record operation for recording a message, the selectively storing step including specifying as the fourth application state a leave-message operation, and specifying as the fifth application state an unavailability of the second user.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising generating the data record as an XML document configured for storing a plurality of application states for respective users according to the session identifier, the first storing step including storing a first subsession identifier for the first user, and storing a second subsession identifier for the second user.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising selectively executing respective web-based voice application operations independently for the first and second users based on respective HTML requests received from the first and second users and the first and second application state stored in the data record.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the selectively executing step includes executing a selected voice application operation for requesting bridging of the first and second users based on a prescribed HTML request received from the second user, the method further comprising third storing in the data record a third application state for the first and second users specifying the bridging.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the selectively executing step further includes executing a second selected voice application operation for requesting disconnection of the bridging based on a second prescribed HTML request received from an HTML browser serving one of the first and second users and the stored third application state, the method further comprising fourth storing in the data record a fourth application state for the first and second users specifying the disconnection of the bridging.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising controlling write access to the data record by one of the first and second application instances based on prescribed read/write protocol within the server.

receiving a first hypertext markup language (HTML) request, via a hypertext transport (HTTP) connection, for execution of a first web-based voice application operation for a first user;

first storing in a data record a session identifier and a first application state that specifies an execution by a first application instance of the first web-based voice application operation for the first user;

executing a second web-based voice application operation by a second application instance for a second user based on the execution of the first web-based voice application operation for the first user; and

second storing in the data record a second application state that specifies the execution by the second application instance of the second web-based voice application operation for the second user.

16. The medium of claim 15, wherein the first storing step and the second storing step each include storing user attribute information that specifies attributes about the corresponding user in the data record.

overwriting the first application state stored in the data record with a third application state that specifies the execution of the third web-based voice application operation for the first user.

19. The medium of claim 17, wherein the step of executing the third web-based voice application operation includes:

selecting for execution a stored XML document that specifies the third web-based voice application operation, based on identifying the HTML request by the first user and based on the first application state stored in the data record.

executing a selected fourth web-based voice application operation in response to the third HTML request and based on the second application state stored in the data record; and

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22. The medium of claim 20, wherein the step of executing the selected fourth web-based voice application operation includes outputting to the first user a second HTML page having XML tags that specify a record operation for recording a message, the selectively storing step including specifying as the fourth application state a leave-message operation, and specifying as the fifth application state an unavailability of the second user.

23. The medium of claim 15, further comprising instructions for performing the step of generating the data record as an XML document configured for storing a plurality of application states for respective users according to the session identifier, the first storing step including storing a first subsession identifier for the first user, and storing a second subsession identifier for the second user.

24. The medium of claim 23, further comprising instructions for performing the step of selectively executing respective web-based voice application operations independently for the first and second users based on respective HTML requests received from the first and second users and the first and second application state stored in the data record.

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26. The medium of claim 25, wherein the selectively executing step further includes executing a second selected voice application operation for requesting disconnection of the bridging based on a second prescribed HTML request received from an HTML browser serving one of the first and second users and the stored third application state, the method further comprising fourth storing in the data record a fourth application state for the first and second users specifying the disconnection of the bridging.

28. The medium of claim 15, further comprising instructions for performing the step of controlling write access to the data record by one of the first and second application instances based on prescribed read/write protocol within the server.

a hypertext transport protocol (HTTP) interface configured for receiving first and second hypertext markup language (HTML) requests by first and second users, respectively, and sending via an HTTP connection first and second HTML pages having a same session identifier and first and second subsession identifiers to browser instances serving the first and second users, respectively; and

an application server configured for executing first and second web application instances for generation of the first and second HTML pages in response to the first and second HTML requests, respectively, the application server storing a data record that specifies a session state, a first subsession state for the first user based on execution of the first web application instance, and a second subsession state for the second user upon completion of the second web application instance, the application server accessing the data record in response to detecting the session identifier in a subsequent HTML request from one of the first and second users, and executing a selected web application operation based on at least one of the first and second subsession states in the accessed data record.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein the HTTP interface includes a web server connected to an Internet Protocol (IP) network.

31. The system of claim 29, further including a local memory for storing the data record for a prescribed time interval.

32. The system of claim 29, further comprising a shared registry for storing the data record, the shared registry configured for supplying the data record to authorized servers.

33. The system of claim 29, wherein the application server is configured for storing within the data record attribute information that specifies respective attributes about the first and second users, the application server executing the selected web application operation based on the user attribute information in the corresponding accessed data record.

34. The system of claim 33, wherein the application server stores the data record as an extensible markup language (XML) document.